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## INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Air Bases, Polar, Radio, and Meteorological Stations in the Soviet Arctic

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1. The principal military air bases at the mouth of the Ob and Yenisei rivers, as well as those of Eastern Siberia, are constantly used for aerial communications. Itineraries are as follows:
  - a. Arkhangelsk - Ust Tsilma - Maryan Nar - Amderma - Dikson Island and, farther away and irregularly, Tiksi Bay.
  - b. Omsk - Tobolsk - Bertzov - Novy Fort.
  - c. Krasnoyarsk - Turukhansk - Dudinka - Igarka - Norilsk - Dikson Island.
  - d. Yakutsk - Oymyakon - Verkhne Kolymsk - and, farther east, Anadyr and Uellen.
2. Irregular courses cover the entire Soviet arctic coast. Polar radio-meteorological stations, in addition to their regular function, are also used as air-to-ground contacts for the planes which fly over the arctic region.
3. After the war, the Soviets used large numbers of political prisoners to construct numerous air bases on the coasts of west and east Siberia.
4. Those in command in Moscow fully realize that lines of invasion into the USSR which follow the meridians are the most dangerous and the most difficult to defend. On the other hand, they know that the large concentration camps in the Soviet North constitute a grave danger in the event of an outside enemy's appearing in these regions.
5. The Soviets also learned a lesson from the last war. The appearance, during the navigable period of 1943, of the cruiser Graf Spee at Maryan Nar, near Cape Severo-Vostochny, and near Dikson Island caused a veritable panic among the weak Soviet garrisons and provoked trouble in the concentration camps.

Attachment: Lists of Polar Observatories, Radio-Meteorological Stations, and Polar Meteorological Stations (2 pages)

| CLASSIFICATION |                                     | SECRET/CONTROL-US OFFICIALS ONLY |                                     |      |                                     |              |  |  |  |  |  |
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